



# Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section



## December, 2022

# The Georgia Section Stays Busy!

### Items of Interest in this edition

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**1/23** - WinterHeat (see p. 9)

**1/14/23** TechFest - Lawrenceville  
[www.Techfest.info](http://www.Techfest.info) (see p. 10)

**2/11/23** - State ARES Meeting - GPSTC

**2/13-17/23** - School Club Roundup

**2/25/23** Dalton Hamfest - Dalton  
[www.facebook.com/DaltonAmateurRadioClub/](http://www.facebook.com/DaltonAmateurRadioClub/)

**3/18/23** - Sevier County (TN) Hamfest

**4/1-2/23** - Georgia Park POTA Day

**6/3/23** - Atlanta Hamfest [www.atlantahamfest.org](http://www.atlantahamfest.org)

**Georgia on My Mind** is a monthly newsletter of the ARRL, Georgia Section, highlighting the activities of Amateur Radio Operators and Clubs within the State.

To submit pictures, articles, or notices, please email the editor Karen Spradlin, K4LJS, at [GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com) before the 5th of each month.

To see previous issues of **Georgia on My Mind**:  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DOPUoxeBBLi8coZB6fDrLYbal9\\_9pN?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DOPUoxeBBLi8coZB6fDrLYbal9_9pN?usp=sharing)

The Amateur Radio Club of Butts County presented our SM, David Benoit (AG4ZR) with a Life Membership, recognition of his assistance with getting the club's UHF repeater on DStar. David gave a lot of time, expertise and gasoline supporting this project.

The plaque was presented to David at the Fayette County Amateur Radio Club's October meeting by ARCBC representative Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK.



**Chattooga Amateur Radio Club** - Congratulations to WB4CFD Claudio for passing his General exam tonight, November 15.

**Atlanta Radio Club** - Testing results:  
John - new Technician  
Fred - new Technician  
Art KQ4AIF - upgraded to Extra  
Leandro KK7ION - upgraded to General

**Stone Mountain Hamfest** - Testing Results:  
9 new Technicians  
7 Generals  
4 Extras

# Fayette County is Hopping

## GA ARES 12/2/22

Here's the full length video from Skywarn Recognition Day 2022 - featuring a tour of the NWS Atlanta office, interview with Meteorologist David Nadler, overview of the WX4PTC amateur radio station, and some of our Skywarn operators on the radio. <https://youtu.be/oUiaja20hU0>

Don't forget, if you made contact with us send a QSL card and SASE to WX4PTC (information is good on QRZ) so we can send you a Skywarn QSL card in return. Here is a short version: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/FUR6isJZNu4>

Joe Domaleski, KI4ASK and the Skywarn team

Fayette County ARES conducts Simulated Emergency Test drill with Fayette County 911 and Fayette County Emergency Management November 12, 2022 - by Joe Domaleski, KI4ASK

For the first time in our longstanding partnership with Fayette County 911 and Emergency Management, Fayette County ARES conducted a drill in which we simulated a county-wide communication outage requiring the use of amateur radio.



With the approval of Fayette County Fire Chief Jeff Hill, 911 Director Katye Vogt (KM4KMX), and EMA Director Captain Brian Davis the Fayette County ARES Emergency Coordinator Lynn Bianco (KN4YZ) put together a realistic drill scenario. Lynn is also a volunteer Communications Lead for the 911 center and has a great knowledge of both the county needs and the amateur radio capabilities.

The purpose of the drill was for Fayette County ARES members to apply dispatch procedures learned in classroom settings to real world Fire and EMS responses. ARES communicated from the 911 center, in real time, actual Fire and EMS dispatches to ARES members embedded in select fire stations. Each ARES member had to copy the appropriate unit(s) being dispatched, the nature of the call, the address, a cross street, and a brief description of the problem. Prior to the drill, Lynn conducted a crash course on 911 dispatch operations for each ARES member. In addition to the training, each ARES member received a safety

briefing and were required to sign waivers as they would be riding along in Fire/EMS apparatus during the drill.

The participating ARES members were divided into two teams. One team deployed to the 911 center to provide the actual dispatching via amateur radio. The second (and larger) team deployed to selected fire stations across the county.

On Saturday morning, 11/12/22 Fayette ARES deployed to their assigned locations by 9:00am. 911 and Fire/EMS staff knew about the drill ahead of time. All participants spent time before the drill getting familiar with equipment being used and getting to know the staff on duty. Participating stations included: Station 1 - AI4UW, Ken. Station 2 - N4FOR, John. Station 4 - AI4RT, John & KY4SD Mark. Station 10 - WB5KFP, Dave. Station 11 - NF5F, Bob. 911 - W8BYH, Brian; KN4YZ, Lynn; & Fayette EMA Director, Brian Davis.

The drill ended up being a huge success, with Fayette ARES learning more about 911 & Fire/EMS operations as well as 911 & Fire/EMS learning more about what amateur radio operators could do. As calls came in to 911, the amateur radio operator on duty would put a call out on the local repeater to pass along the information to the stations. The receiving amateur radio station would copy the information on a 3x5 card and match that up with what was sent over the public safety radio system. In future drills, we may consider VHF simplex but for this first time drill we decided it was best to use the repeater. All participants kept ICS 214 logs of their activities.

Many lessons were learned including how fast a dispatch operation is and the need to be able to accurately copy and relay information. Fire trucks are noisy and that added to the challenge of accurately copying dispatch information while en route to the scene. Most amateur radio operators were using handheld radios because of the need to be on foot and in the vehicle. We now know why most first responders keep a radio on their person AND have access to a permanently mounted mobile radio in their vehicles - something to consider for future drills.

Fayette County ARES would like to thank Fayette County Fire/EMS/EMA and Fayette County 911 for the opportunity to train alongside their staff. We're looking forward to future drills and providing emergency/auxiliary communications capabilities when and if needed.

# 2022 South Georgia POTA Event

On Saturday, October 22, 2022, a couple of South Georgia clubs decided to hold a friendly competition in our local parks to see who could make the most contacts from a park while participating in the Parks On The Air program. We wanted to use POTA as an opportunity to get clubs in Southwest Georgia together. Most of the clubs have small membership numbers so it was nice to combine our numbers as activators. Since this event was more of an opportunity for our clubs to fellowship, we tried to keep the rules as simple as possible by taking the average over total contacts over the total operating time for the scoring.

As the event coordinators, Robbie, W1RCP, and Eddie, KO4NLL, contacted seven clubs in the area and asked if they wanted to do a Parks On The Air activation together and six clubs participated in some form. At the time of planning the South Georgia Amateur Radio Club already had plans to activate Reed Bingham State Park so they were asked if they would like to join us.

The South Georgia Amateur Radio Club (W4TFM) activated Reed Bingham State Park with the help of Ken Elsberry, WD4ERM, and Billy Ley, WA4NKL, Chris Tone, N4BIM, Steven Haineault, W4AGR, and Ronnie Thomas, KK4JJG. They were able to make 50 QSOs during the four hours that they operated.

The Albany Amateur Radio Club (W4MM) activated the Chickasawhatchee Wildlife Management Area. They had quite a few members in attendance. Francis Greenslade, N4UWS, John Henderson, KN4OWG, Zack Cook, K4EAR, operated the radio. The other hams in attendance were Clyde Shamlee, KN4UXG, Jim Manuel, W4MNL, Robert Gerbert, KY4RG, Harold Pinson, K4WHP, and Bill Pawley, N4PCB. They made 65 QSOs in a little over an hour of operating time!

Keith Carter, KF4BI, and Darryl Vickers, N4OME, did a pinch hit for the Coastal Plains Amateur Radio Club (W4PVW). They made a last minute decision to operate for the club so they didn't have time to operate under the club call. They made 70 QSOs from the Jefferson Davis Memorial State Historic Site in about three hours.

Andy Clark and a couple of members of the Thomasville Amateur Radio Club (W4UCJ) planned to operate from a park in Florida, but reported that no QSOs were made due to technical issues.

The Colquitt County Ham Radio Society (KQ4DMQ) also operated from Reed Bingham State Park, and we had representation from two other clubs alongside Robbie Pitts, W1RCP, and Eddie Stephan, KO4NLL. First and foremost, the Valdosta State University's "Blazed Hams" were represented by Derek Miller, KQ4DAT, Yasmin Guzman, KQ4DET, and her brother Daniel. Derek operated under the CCHRS club call on FT8, and Yasmin helped make contacts on SSB for the club, but the even more exciting part was watching the three of them make their first HF QSOs on ten meters while chasing DX stations! Together they made contacts with Italy, Germany, France, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. While they didn't make any POTA QSOs under their own call signs, it was exciting to guide them in making contacts using their Technician Privileges. Randy Brightman, KN4SHQ, represented the Valdosta Amateur Radio Club (W4VLD), but he chose to operate as the Colquitt County Ham Radio Society. CCHRS was the only participant in the multi-transmitter category, and they made 207 QSOs in four and a half hours.

Reed Bingham State Park had a large representation of Amateur Radio Operators in a very small area, and we were visited by the park manager Bud Fuller and Amber. Eddie and Robbie have done over 40 activations at Reed Bingham State Park, and we are no strangers to Bud. He came over to make sure that the events planned later in the day in the park didn't interfere with our event. I enjoy getting visited by Bud to show him what Parks On The Air is about. I want to personally thank him and his team for their welcome of Amateur Radio operations from the park.

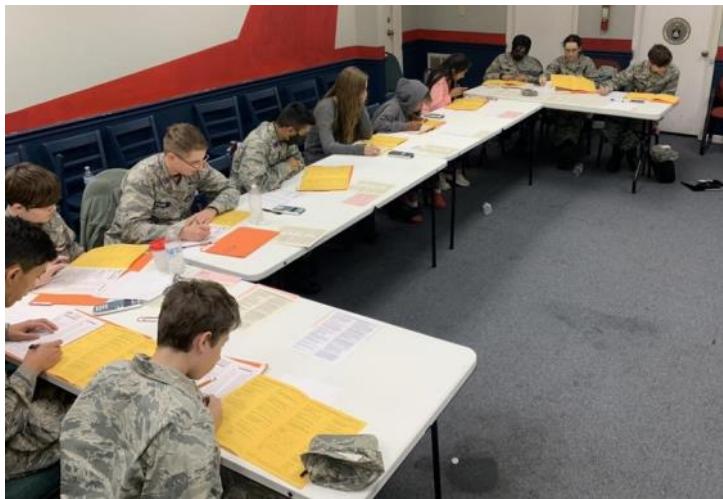


Above: Yasmin Guzman, KQ4DET, makes a Park to Park contact with Eddie Stephan KO4NLL, while her brother Daniel watches.

Below: Derek Miller, KQ4DAT, with Yasmin and Daniel

# Radio Club News

## Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County



11/19/22 - Earlier this evening 10 young individuals in the Civil Air Patrol Augusta Composite Squadron (GA-069) completed a two day course taught by instructors from the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County, Inc. with training materials from [HamRadioSchool.com](https://HamRadioSchool.com) and earned their Technician Class License!

Congratulations to Derek Cogburn for earning his Technician Class license during the Exam Session and for winning the Baofeng GT-5R portable radio preprogrammed with all of the CSRA Repeater Frequencies provided as part of the joint amateur radio incentive program conducted by the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County, Inc. and the Amateur Radio Club of Augusta! Congratulations all!

A very special Thank You to all of the Volunteer Examiners who make these test sessions possible.

What a wonderful group of committed individuals who help increase awareness and help add new amateur radio operators to the Amateur Radio hobby!



## Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

Nov. 29 - Fantastic way to wrap up this year's club meetings! Joshua KO4AWH did an awesome presentation of portable QRP setups with many options. Crazy to think there were basically 2+ ham shacks in that case!



# Radio Club News

**The Jasper Radio Club** (K4ACW) came in # 1 in GA as 1AGA during the ARRL's annual Field Day in June, 2022 with 692 points.

Off Grid Radio (KC4OG) (K4G) Came in it #1 as 2AGA with 2300 points.

Great job everyone!

We can't wait until Winter field day (WFD), starting January 27th at 2:00 pm and running until 2:00 pm Sunday the 28th.

Frank Dean, K4SJR



## Youth/Youngsters on the Air Month-Long Event

On December 1, 2022, YOTA begins a month-long, special event to celebrate young amateur radio operators -- YOTA Month 2022. YOTA is Youth or Youngsters on the Air. Amateur radio operators aged 25 and younger will be on all bands using all modes throughout the month to make contacts around the world. In 2021, YOTA participants worldwide made 119,516 contacts, surpassing their goal of 100,000 contacts.

In the United States, the call signs for the event will be K8Y, K8O, K8T, and K8A. Argentina will be active as LR1YOTA, Canada as VC3YOTA and VB7YOTA, El Salvador as YS1YOTA, and Honduras as HQ2YOTA. Amateur radio operators are encouraged to listen for and contact these stations, as well as all call signs ending in the letters "YOTA" across the globe.

In addition to the month-long celebration, on December 30 from 1200 to 2359 UTC, round three of the YOTA Contest will be active.

Various YOTA activities and events are organized throughout the world. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Youth in Amateur Radio web page includes additional information and links at <https://www.iaru.org/on-the-air/youth-in-amateur-radio>.

From The ARRL Letter 12/1/22



# Youth in the News

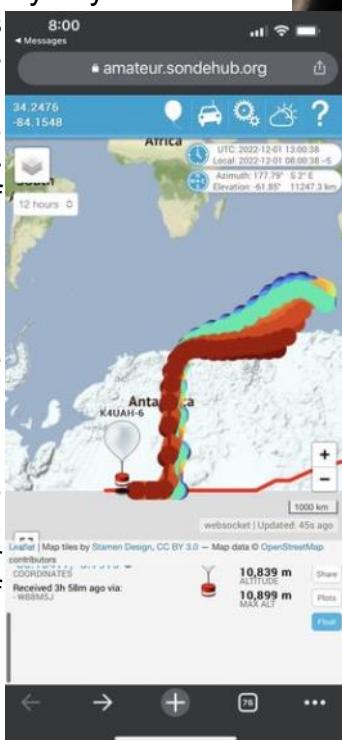
## The "Roald Flyer"

The high altitude balloon and Skytracker launched by Project Lead and The University of Alabama in Huntsville - UAH - Atmospheric Physics researcher Todd McKinney, Amateur Radio callsign KN4TPG at the Antarctic Neumayer Station III, and working with NASA Engineer Bill Brown WB8ELK in Huntsville, is transmitting the amateur radio call sign of Jack McElroy KM4ZIA and has traveled to within 104 miles of the South Pole. The pole of course, is at 90 degrees.

Jack's balloon was down at 88 degrees, making it the closest approach to the South Pole by any Amateur Radio balloon. Jack's balloon is so far south, that some mapping systems are unable to fix a position, meaning that the KM4ZIA autonomous flight system and solar powered Amateur Radio transmitter is literally "off the map" !!

Update for the High Altitude Balloon flying 35,000 feet above Antarctica and the South Sea transmitting the callsign of Jack McElroy KM4ZIA on the Amateur Radio 20 meter band.

The "Roald Flyer", also known as K4UAH-6 and KM4ZIA-12, has been orbiting Antarctica since November 20th, 2022. We honor the legacy of Roald Amundsen.



Amateur Radio stations around the globe that have heard Jack's callsign KM4ZIA from his balloon, and uploaded the data to web maps.



# HamJam 2022

On November 12<sup>th</sup> the North Fulton Amateur Radio League (NFARL) held their 13<sup>th</sup> annual HamJam 2022 event this year accumulating over \$7,000 in funds for scholarships. Their motto for this annual event is "It's all about Youth"

HamJam is an ARRL affiliated event and endorsed by other Georgia Amateur Radio Clubs including:

Southeastern DX Club  
Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Atlanta Radio Club  
Cherokee Amateur Radio Society  
Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club  
Kennehoochee ARC  
Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
North Georgia QRP Club  
Sawnee Amateur Radio Society

[HamJam history and background link](#)

This is also a vendor sponsored event with support from a number of well known Equipment vendors. (see below)



Scholarships are offered through the ARRL Foundation.

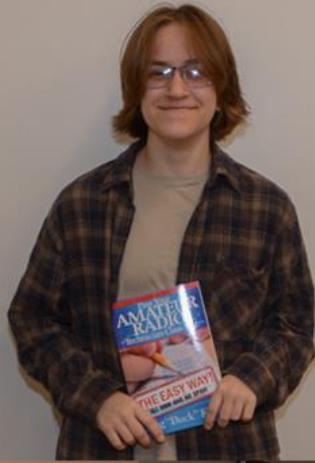
- Distribute 130 scholarships in 2022 totaling \$900,000. 2023 will be the same.
- Scholarships range from \$500 to \$25,000
- HamJam funds our scholarships and specifies the recipients' locations including Georgia
- The Foundation selects and awards our scholarships to amateur operators

HamJam is an annual event with guest speakers, topics, and a raffle. Speakers included youth speaker Thomas "TJ" Hardin, KO4FFA. TJ spoke about the record-setting Youth DX Adventure team he was on this year, his involvement with ARISS, and getting more youth involved in ham radio. Steve Goodgame K5ATA, Education and Learning Manager from ARRL Headquarters covered ways to engage people, young and old, to Amateur Radio and techniques for conveying technical concepts. Also giving a presentation was Joe Eisenberg K0NEB who is Kit Building Editor for CQ Magazine.



# HamJam 2022 Raffle Winners

Future Technician



Youth speaker TJ Hardin KO4FFA  
Door prize winner Fred Moore N4CLA



Icom IC-705 winner Roger K4RNM



Flex 6400 winner Robert Davis KJ4AFG



Science for the Radio Amateur book winner  
Tim WK4U



Daily DX subscription winner  
Phil Specht K4PQC



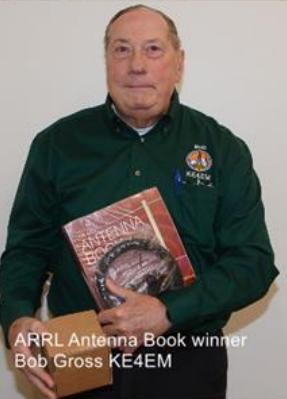
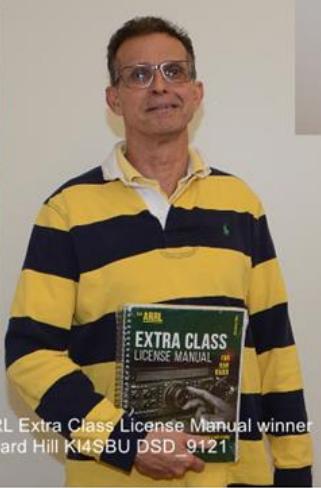
How To Chase Work & Confirm DX The Easy Way  
book winner Mark Fairchild KN4OYN



ARRL Grounding and Bonding Book winner  
Tom Crowley KT4XN



ARRL Extra Class License Manual winner  
Edward Hill KI4SBU DSD\_9121



ARRL Antenna Book winner  
Bob Gross KE4EM



NFARL President John Norris N4IHV with  
speaker Steve Goodgame K5ATA of ARRL

# Upcoming Events

# WINTERHEAT 2023

WINTERHEAT is a month long amateur radio simplex event, January 2023.

The goal and purpose is for amateur radio operators to make as many contacts as possible over a month long period of time using only designated simplex frequencies.

This is an event originally started in Illinois as a regional event, and has slowly been opened up to hams all over. So jump on the bandwagon for an opportunity to test your gear while trying to contact other hams via simplex mode. 1000 Hams made over 134,000 contacts in 2022.

In an effort to create an avenue for communication among hams here in Georgia during the event

a Discord app has been employed. Join us at <https://discord.gg/v6X8ZTFd>

Any Questions? Feel free to email [n3ack@atlantaradioclub.org](mailto:n3ack@atlantaradioclub.org)

- All participants must be registered with the automated logging system for contacts to be credited [www.hamactive.com](http://www.hamactive.com) The website will be populated with more info as we get close to January
- All contacts must be made on the designated amateur radio frequencies.
- Contacts must be via FM voice and can be either analog or digital (DMR, Fusion, D-Star).
- All contacts must be made during the event period. (00:01 January 1, 2022 to 23:59 January 31, 2022)
- Stations may only make contact with each other once per day on each designated frequency.

RECOMMENDED FREQUENCIES		
ANALOG		
2M	70CM	OTHER
147.570	446.700	52.540
147.525	446.400	223.400
		927.100
DIGITAL		
147.570 C4FM-V	446.700 C4FM-U	
147.570 DMR-V	446.700 DMR-U	
TG.99 TS:1 CC:1	TG.99 TS:1 CC:1	
145.670 DSTAR-V	447.225 DSTAR-U	

## SCORING:

When making a QSO, only one station will enter the information into the system. Usually the station calling CQ would enter the initial QSO information. The other station will be responsible for confirming the QSO. Unconfirmed QSO will be credited with 1 contact point where a confirmed QSO will be awarded a value of 10 contact points.

A QSO can be made with a station that has not signed up as a participant. However that QSO will only be awarded a single contact point. Should the non-participant sign up for the event after the QSO is made, the QSO made prior to their sign up will still be credited as a single contact point until the participant confirms the contact.



02221986



## Sevier County 2023 Hamfest

March 18th, 7am to 4pm

754 Old Knoxville HWY

Sevierville, TN

Dealer's - Flea Market - Food - ARRL -Special Guest

Computers- Smoky Mountain Crafts- Forums

Breakfast & Lunch Concessions

Free Parking - VE Testing - Club's & More !

Largest Hamfest In East TN

Boneyard/ Flea Market Open's At 7 AM

General Admission Gate Opens At 8 am

Gate Admission 10.00 Per Person

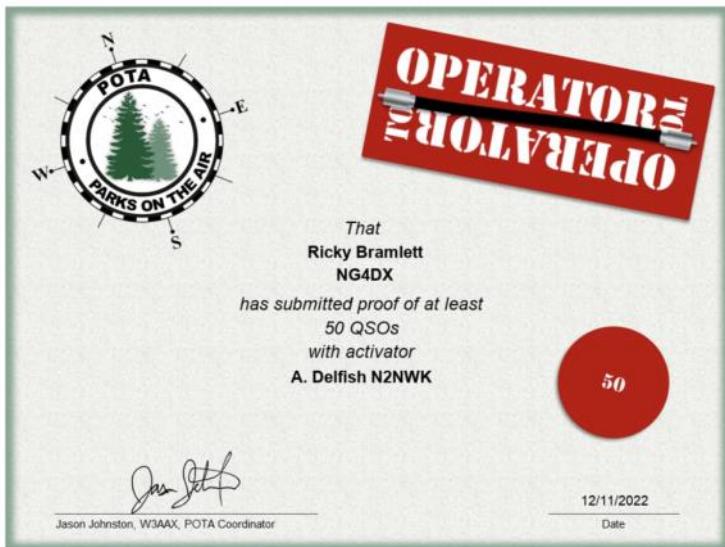
Boneyard 15.00 Driver & Vehicle - 10.00 Per Person

In Car... [seviercountyarss.com](http://seviercountyarss.com) for more !



# Dots, Dashes & Tidbits

## Rafflesia Flower



## A.R.E.S. Monthly Report for November 2022

Number of DECs/ECs reporting - 55

Number of ARES nets - 1313

Nets with NTS liaison - 5

Number of Exercises &

Training Sessions - 975 (2806 hrs.)

Number of Public Service events - 18 (273 hrs.)

Number of Emergency Operations - 2 (24 hrs.)

Number of SkyWarn Operations - 6 (16 hrs.)

**Total of Exercises & Events 1001**

**Total of person hours 3119**

## Georgia Section Nets

### **ARES Phone & Digital Nets**

Note: GA ARES Net information can be found at [gaares.org](http://gaares.org) – Select Nets & Frequencies

#### **Georgia Section ARES Net:**

Section Net Manager – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ  
[kn4qj@arrl.net](mailto:kn4qj@arrl.net)

Net control operator – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ  
Alt. net control operator – Jim Altman, W4UCK

#### **Georgia Section ARES Digital Nets:**

Section Digital Net Manager, Don Jones, K4GO  
[k4go@arrl.net](mailto:k4go@arrl.net)

*Digital Team Leaders also serve as net control operators.*

#### **Winlink Team Lead**, Russell Prevost, AB4QQ

Net control operators: Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Mark Bell N7GRB, Bill Hall K9HRO

#### **PSK & Traffic Nets** Team Lead, Del Davis, W4DEL

Net control operators: Bob Garza K4TLG, Don Jones K4GO Ken Wallis KM4HOS, Richard Austin W4BYT

#### **D-RATS Net** Team Lead, Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ

Net control operators: Rial Sloan AI4ZV, Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Ed Walraven KM4IOA, Carter Grant KN4KBL



TECH FEST 2023  
★ ★ ★ 25TH ANNIVERSARY ★ ★ ★

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023

EXHIBITORS: SET UP 7:30AM - 9:00AM

PUBLIC: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

FREE HAM EXAMS: 9:00AM - 11:00AM

FINAL PRIZE DRAWING: 3:00PM

FORUMS - EXHIBITORS

RAFFLE PRIZES - DOOR PRIZES

FREE LUNCH - FREE COFFEE

CHILI COOK-OFF - & MORE!

